

State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207 Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: SPRING CREEK DITCH MAINTENANCE

Description of Proposal:

The project is located on the Kiona Unit of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area. The majority of the unit consists of wetland habitat, with a small portion of upland pasture. This area is a priority area for riparian wetland habitat restoration and related enhancement projects. The upland pasture portion is managed as big-game foraging pasture.

Utilizing an excavator operating from the dike along the south bank of Spring Creek, remove approximately 30 yards of bed load material deposited during the 2008 / 2009 flooding of Oliver Creek. There are three locations along the reach where the material is blocking the normal flow of the ditch to the east causing artificially elevated water levels that then flow out into the fields making them inaccessible to equipment. The removed material will be spread out along the top of the dike

Proponent/Applicant:

Mark Grabski – Manager PO BOX 758 Morton, WA 98356 360.496.6223

Location of Proposal, including street, if any:

46.531250 N lat. / -122.000639 W long. (WGS84)

Township 12N R6E Sec. 13 E1/2 of NW1/4- Lewis County, WA

From Randle travel west on US-12 W 2.5 mi, Turn left at Savio Rd 308 ft, Take the 1st left onto Savio Rd E. Follow road keeping to left past mobile home to gate marked Cowlitz Wildlife Area.

Gate is locked -- proceed on foot along forest road to bottom where the road opens into the fields. Project site is east of the road along the ditch. Call JARPA contact for site visit and vehicular access. (See JARPA for map)

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **June 30, 2010**

You can submit your comments by email to <u>SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov</u>, through the WDFW SEPA website comment link at http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm, fax to (360) 902-2946, or mail to the address below. When you send us your comments, please provide the name of the proposal in your comment letter.

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Teresa Eturaspe at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2575.

DATE OF ISSUE: June 16, 2010 SIGNATURE: Teresa A. Clurage

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)

2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 10 -045. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Western Washington Office, Lacey NOAA - Fisheries, Seattle Lewis County Planning Department, Chehalis State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olympia Dept of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Chehalis Tribe, Oakville Nisqually Tribe, Olympia Squaxin Island Tribe, Shelton Yakama Tribe, Toppenish Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 5, Vancouver WDFW, Fish Program, Region 5, Vancouver WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 5, Vancouver